

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Hitoshi ITO)
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned) Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned
Filed: December 3, 2003) Examiner: Not yet assigned
For: PHOTOMASK, METHOD FOR)
FABRICATING A PATTERN)
AND METHOD FOR)
MANUFACTURING A)
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

The following is listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and is in a non-English language. An English-language abstract is attached.

1. Japanese Patent Application No. 11-271955 - This document discloses a phase shift mask with a transparent film on shading and phase shifter patterns (Fig. 3).

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that any of the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of any such document. Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over any of the listed documents, should any of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By: 

Richard V. Burgujian
Reg. No. 31,744

Dated: December 3, 2003

Enclosures
RVB/FPD/cma

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	03180.0344	Application No.	TBA
Applicant	Hitoshi ITO		
Filing Date	December 3, 2003	Group:	Not yet assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	6,355,382	03/12/2002	Yasuzato et al.	430	5	
	5,866,280	02/02/1999	Ito et al.	430	5	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
11-271955	10/08/1999	Japan			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner	Date Considered
<p>*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p>	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce